GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4446
ANSWERED ON:29.03.2017
Artificial Satellites
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Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to use artificial satellites for assessment and effective monitoring of the various schemes;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether the Government also proposes to ensure availability of health services through artificial satellites in economically backward areas particularly in Bundelkhand and far flung hilly areas; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PG & PENSIONS AND IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a) & (b)
The data and value added services derived from earth observation, communication and navigation satellites, in conjunction with ground based information and geospatial technologies, are being utilized by various Ministries/ Departments in planning, monitoring and evaluation of developmental activities in varied application sectors. Some of the important applications include − (i) Monitoring of irrigation infrastructure (canal network) & assessment of its utilisation on ground, (ii) Monitoring & evaluation of micro-watersheds, (iii) Mapping and monitoring of assets being created under various schemes viz. MGNREGA, Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), (iv) assessment of waterbodies for inland fish culture, (v) assessment of damages due to natural disasters. These applications help decision makers to adopt suitable measures for planning and assess the status of implementation of developmental activities on the ground.

(c) & (d)
Under Tele-medicine programme, association with Ministry of Health & Family Welfare is firmed up for improving the utilisation of currently operational 100 Tele-medicine Centres in various regions, which includes economically backward and hilly areas viz. Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Jammu & Kashmir, North Eastern States, parts of Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.
Satellite capacity is available to ensure connectivity for Tele-medicine/ health services to backward areas, including Bundelkhand region, which could be utilised depending on the initiatives from the concerned agencies.

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